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THE Livestock and Meat SITUATION

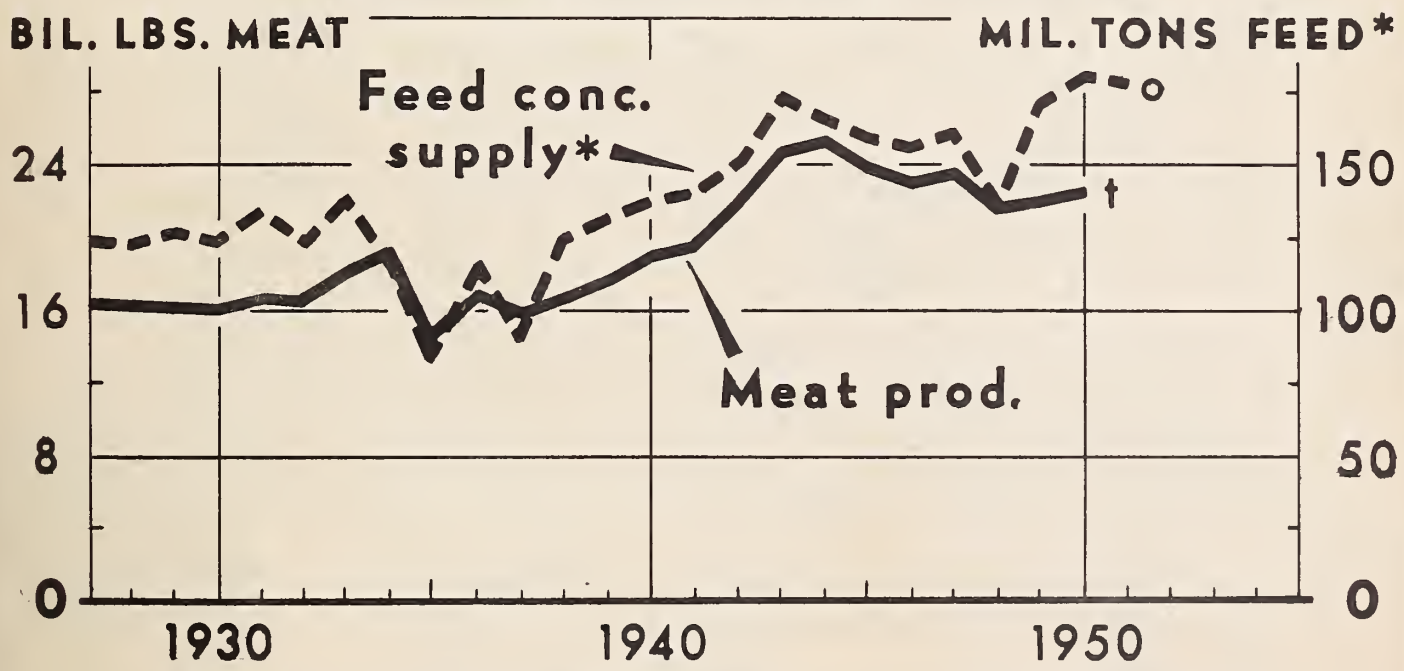
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

LMS-41

BAE

JULY 1950

MEAT PRODUCTION AND FEED CONCENTRATE SUPPLY



*FEEDING YEAR BEGINNING PRECEDING OCTOBER; INCLUDES SUPPLIES FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION OF CORN, OATS, BARLEY, SORGHUM GRAINS, IMPORTED GRAIN, DOMESTIC WHEAT AND RYE FED, AND BYPRODUCT FEEDS FOR FEED

○ 1951 FIGURE BASED ON JULY CROP PRODUCTION PROSPECTS † PARTLY FORECAST

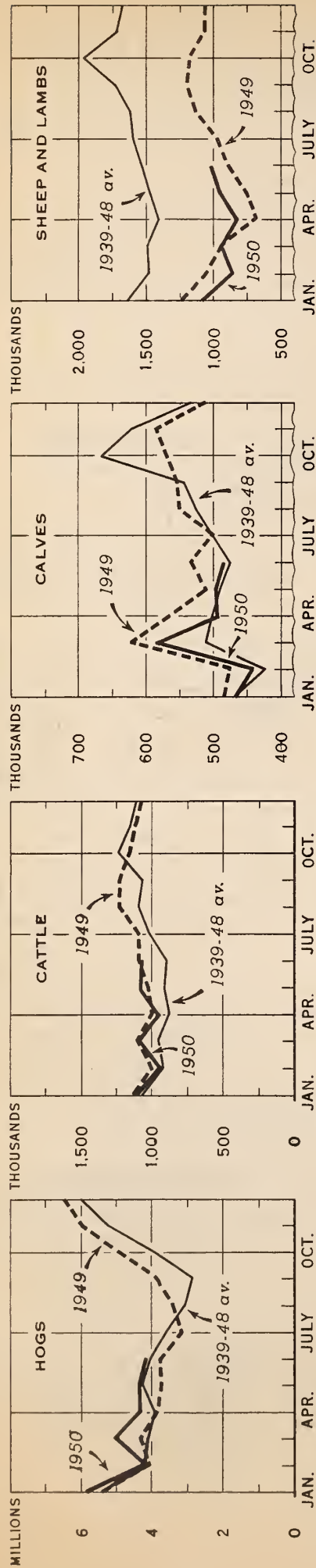
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Year to year changes in supplies of feed concentrates give some indication of changes which will occur in the production of meat during the calendar year following the grain harvest. On the basis of indications in July, total supplies of feed grain and other feed concentrates

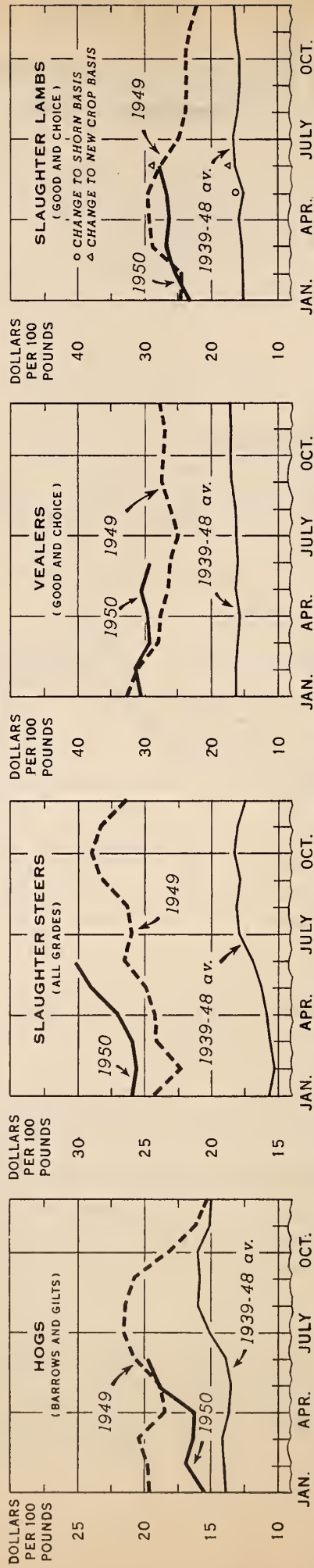
for the 1950-51 feeding season will be second only to the record supplies of last year. In view of the large supply of feed concentrates, total production of meat in 1951 probably will be moderately more than in 1950.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

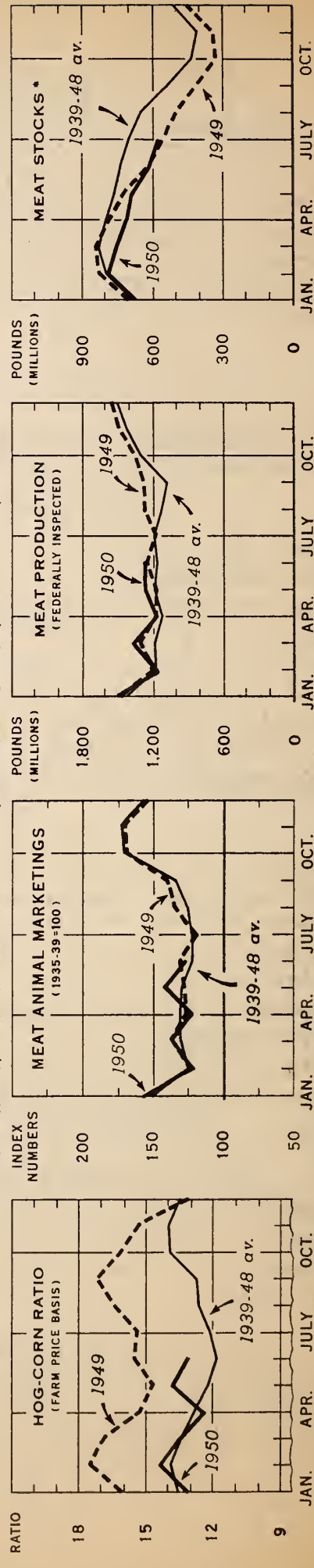
FEDERALLY INSPECTED SLAUGHTER, UNITED STATES



MARKET PRICES, CHICAGO



HOG-CORN RATIO, MEAT ANIMAL MARKETINGS, MEAT PRODUCTION, AND STOCKS, UNITED STATES



*BEEF, LAMB AND MUTTON, PORK AND MISCELLANEOUS MEATS IN MEAT PACKING PLANTS AND COMMERCIAL COLD STORAGE HOUSES, BEGINNING OF MONTH

THE LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, July 25, 1950

SUMMARY

Output of meat, now at its seasonal low, will increase gradually through the rest of the year. Production in October-December is expected to be slightly larger than a year earlier. The gain will be in pork, largely because of the 3 percent increase in the spring pig crop, and in the better grades of beef. The quantity of beef produced from grass cattle probably will be about the same as in the fall of 1949.

Prices for meat and meat animals are expected to decline seasonally this fall, but to be generally high. Strengthening consumer demand due to increased defense programs may limit some of the seasonal decline in prices associated with increased fall marketings.

Total supplies of meat for the second half of 1950 will include about the same quantity from cold storage stocks and from imports as in the second half of 1949. Although greater than average amounts of meat were withdrawn from cold storage during June, cold storage stocks on July 1 were about the same as a year earlier.

Consumption of meat per person in the October-December quarter is expected to be up a little from the 37.3 pounds in that quarter last year. For 1950 as a whole, consumption per person is expected to about equal the 144 pounds in 1949.

Prices of meat animals and meats have generally advanced since mid-April. The increase in prices of lambs and of Choice grade cattle, however, was relatively small. Demand for meat has been strong this spring and summer, although short of the record demand of the summer of 1948. The seasonal increase in marketings this fall may result in moderately large price declines for hogs and smaller declines for the better grades of beef cattle. No significant drop for the lower grades of beef cattle is in prospect, because demand for feeder cattle is likely to remain strong through the fall. Sheep and lamb prices are expected to follow about the usual seasonal pattern of a small decline in early fall, and to continue high.

In the first 5 months this year, 2 percent fewer lambs and yearlings but 25 percent more mature sheep (mostly ewes) were slaughtered under Federal inspection than a year earlier. Because of this increase in slaughter of ewes it is possible that sheep numbers will be reduced again in 1950.

A moderate reduction in the number of cattle and calves slaughtered so far this year compared with last, together with larger numbers of breeding stock on January 1, points to another increase in cattle numbers in 1950.

Another large corn crop and larger production of oats and barley than in 1949 is in prospect for this year. With a heavy carry-over, dominated by unusually large stocks of corn, supplies of feed concentrates per animal unit will be nearly as large as the record supply of the last year. Hay supplies will be ample, probably near record per hay-consuming animal unit. The prospective large supply of corn on farms will support farmers' earlier intentions to keep more sows for fall farrowing. It may also result in slaughter weights of hogs close to those of last year, and may be followed by another winter of large numbers of cattle fed on grain for slaughter.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Meat Production Seasonally Low

Production of meat in July was seasonally lower than in previous months but as large or slightly larger than a year earlier. Preliminary data indicate that of the four meats, only production of veal was substantially smaller than a year earlier.

Slaughter of grass-fed cattle from range and pasture has been increasing recently and is expected to rise seasonally until about October. Slaughter of grain-fed cattle is also increasing. However, through July the number of grain-fed cattle slaughtered continued smaller than last year, as it had been in nearly all previous months of 1950. Although about 8 percent more cattle were on grain feed for market in 11 Corn Belt States on April 1 than in the previous April, slaughter of grain-fed cattle failed to increase as much this summer as last. Many of the cattle were put on feed last winter at lighter weights than a year earlier and were scheduled for later slaughter dates.

The larger inventory of cattle on feed in the Corn Belt on April 1, together with increased receipts of stocker and feeder cattle and smaller marketings than last year, resulted in 34 percent more cattle on feed in that area July 1 than a year ago. About 74 percent of the July 1 inventory is expected to be marketed before October 1, according to July 1 intentions. About 27 percent of these cattle are intended for market in August and 28 percent in September. If those intentions are carried out the number of head marketed in September will be greatly increased over last year. Consequently, slaughter of grain-fed cattle may soon regain its 1949 level and exceed it later in the season. Slaughter of all cattle is not expected to decrease as much late this year as it did in 1949.

In the week ending July 20, for the first time this year, the number of steers grading Choice or Prime at Chicago exceeded the number grading Good. This reflected the increased proportion of long-fed cattle from feed lots. Well-finished cattle are expected to comprise a major part of receipts until late in the year, when such cattle become seasonally in shorter supply.

Table 1.- Number and average weight of hogs received at 7 midwestern markets, by weeks, May-July, 1949 and 1950

Number received						
		1950			1949	
Week ended	Sows	All hogs	Sows as percentage of all hogs	Sows	All hogs	Sows as percentage of all hogs
	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent	1,000 head	1,000 head	Percent
May 6	16.3	206.1	8	11.3	192.3	6
May 13	21.6	209.9	10	12.7	185.1	7
May 20	23.4	214.7	11	15.7	174.1	9
May 27	30.6	201.5	15	22.4	192.3	12
June 3	34.4	183.5	19	27.5	177.3	15
June 10	49.1	229.9	21	37.7	202.9	19
June 17	60.8	209.4	29	50.7	189.9	27
June 24	65.9	208.3	32	61.6	185.3	33
July 1	79.7	205.8	39	78.0	201.0	39
July 8	67.3	158.3	43	81.9	181.2	45
July 15	95.8	225.1	43	89.4	211.6	42
July 22	91.7	201.4	46	82.8	186.4	44
July 29				85.7	182.7	47
Average weight						
		1950			1949	
	Sows	Barrows and gilts		Sows	Barrows and gilts	
	Pounds	Pounds		Pounds	Pounds	
May 6	406	236		421	250	
May 13	396	235		414	248	
May 20	393	234		406	245	
May 27	389	233		401	244	
June 3	387	231		394	244	
June 10	385	234		391	241	
June 17	378	231		387	236	
June 24	376	227		378	234	
July 1	372	223		375	232	
July 8	372	224		371	230	
July 15	368	224		368	231	
July 22	369	227		367	230	
July 29				368	227	

Production of pork was supported in early summer by early marketings of sows again this year, (table 1). At 7 leading midwestern markets, 14 percent more sows were received this June than in June 1949. Of the total number of sows expected to be slaughtered from May through August, approximately one-half had gone to market by July 1. The number of sows slaughtered is likely to decrease rapidly in late summer.

Slaughter of barrows and gilts was at its seasonal low in July. Within the next several weeks, hogs from the 1950 spring pig crop will begin arriving at market in sizable numbers.

Several factors underlie the prospects for early dates of hog marketings. A larger proportion of the spring pig crop was farrowed before the first of April this year than last. Price discounts for heavy hogs, increasing during the summer, will encourage marketings at light weights at the beginning of the fall season. The fact that many producers obtained comparatively high prices for hogs by marketing before the seasonal price decline last year probably will lead to early marketings again this year.

In each month since July 1949, the live weight of hogs slaughtered under Federal inspection has averaged lighter than in the same month a year earlier. During the summer, average slaughter weights for all hogs increases because of the high proportion of sows in the total. Nevertheless, reports from 7 midwestern markets indicate that the market weights of barrows and gilts continue lighter than last year. The weights at these markets in June averaged 8 pounds lower than in June 1949. This fall, however, slaughter weights are likely to approach those of corresponding periods in 1949. It is unlikely that prices during the fall months will be such as to make early marketing of underfinished hogs profitable.

Total meat production in the July-September quarter is expected to be near that of the same quarter last year. Withdrawals from cold storage holdings and imports of meat are not expected to be greatly different from last year. Stocks of meat held in cold storage on July 1 were 633 million pounds compared with 612 million last year, with beef stocks down about 13 million pounds and pork up almost 47 million pounds. Imports of meat and meat animals may be slightly above those of last year unless importation is restricted. Imports from Canada for the first 5 months this year showed a considerable increase over the same months of 1949 (table 2). With meat supplies about the same as a year earlier and the population a little larger, consumption per person in the third quarter may be slightly smaller than the 34.6 pounds last year.

More Meat in Last Quarter

Consumption of all meats per person in the fourth quarter of 1950 promises to be a little above the 37.3 pounds consumed in the same quarter of 1949. Output this fall will increase seasonally at a faster rate than last year. Total production of pork and better grades of beef in that period is expected to exceed last year. Marketings of hogs probably will be up, about in proportion to the 3 percent increase over last year in the spring pig crop. Production of pork, however, may increase less if average weights of hogs slaughtered continue lighter than a year earlier. Total output of beef may be up somewhat this fall from last. The increase will come largely from grain-fed cattle. Output of veal and of lamb and mutton this fall will probably be below that of a year earlier.

Table 2.- Imports of cattle and of beef and veal into the United States from Canada and of cattle from Mexico, by years, 1934-49, by months to date, 1950

Year	Cattle and calves					Beef and veal				
	Canada		Mexico			Canned		Pickled		
	Cattle	Other	Calves	Cattle	Other	including	or	chilled or	Fresh,	
	for	edible	1/	for	edible	corned	cured	or frozen		
	breeding	cattle	Number	breeding	cattle	Number	Number	Number	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
1934	5,603	1,825	0	1,237	55,853	---	---	1	76	
1935	13,066	112,720	0	280	251,090	---	---	250	4,368	
1936	10,346	178,368	55,695	684	162,431	1,615	1,615	78	892	
1937	11,350	214,546	80,792	692	197,509	1,259	1,259	191	2,240	
1938	9,080	92,118	45,645	383	283,800	2,062	---	10	518	
1939	9,599	192,552	81,832	267	445,306	33,259	2/	69	565	
1940	12,904	144,675	74,681	502	380,922	29,921	2/	34	362	
1941	16,139	173,795	62,419	235	456,373	39,776	22	722	128	
1942	16,107	144,017	53,015	81	442,039	13,503	29	4,209	239	
1943	22,369	36,292	5,986	582	579,071	8,283	152	11	167	
1944	16,748	34,826	5,551	26	300,790	310	8	1	42	
1945	22,165	45,530	8,428	9	434,111	1,315	91	2/	43	
1946	41,919	68,032	9,345	152	437,614	708	26	2/	59	
1947	29,869	45,379	7,642	0	3/1,430	0	1	2/	29	
1948	42,853	395,255	23,725	0	0	0	183	935	71,634	
1949	21,332	370,591	41,535	0	0	0	297	16	74,534	
1950										
January	1,581	31,297	1,886	0	0	2	0	0	5,723	
February	1,413	30,841	1,893	0	0	5	0	2	3,170	
March	1,617	29,756	4,959	0	0	1	0	0	2,796	
April	2,216	23,066	5,677	0	0	1	0	0	2,532	
May	2,249	31,023	6,735	0	0	6	0	1	6,076	

1/ Under 200 pounds.

2/ Less than 500 pounds.

3/ Cattle from Mexico were actually imported on December 26, 1946; books had been closed so they were reported in January 1947.

Compiled from reports on foreign trade of United States Department of Commerce.

Hog Prices in July
Above Last Year

Prices of barrows and gilts at Chicago were steady in June and then climbed rapidly in the first part of July. Prices of barrows and gilts rose \$4.73 from mid-June to mid-July, and in the week ending July 15 were \$2.55 above those in the same week of 1949. The high percentage of sows in total marketings and the low prices for lard and for fat cuts relative to prices of lean cuts have tended to depress the price of heavier hogs. The spread in price between medium and heavy weights of barrows and gilts, although not as great as last summer, has continued to widen.

Good Cattle Prices Strong;
Lower Grades Decline

Prices of Good grade slaughter steers at Chicago fluctuated around \$30.00 per 100 pounds during early summer. Prices of lower grades this spring and summer continued to increase until early June and have been relatively steady since that time. Prices of Common grade slaughter steers at Chicago fell only from \$25.56 the week of June 8 to \$24.35 the week ending July 20.

Prices of the better grades of cattle may decline somewhat this fall as supplies of these grades remain large and total supplies of meat increase. No large decline in price of the lower grades is expected, since demand for feeder cattle is likely to be strong throughout the fall.

The spread between prices of feeder steers at Kansas City and of Good grade slaughter steers at Chicago increased slowly from the first of May until early July. However, it is still rather narrow for this time of year. Demand for feeder cattle has been very active during most of 1950 and is likely to continue so.

The smaller number of feeder stock available compared with last year and higher prices for feeds may restrict cattle feeding this winter. Inventories of feeder stock on January 1 in the principal western producing States were lower than a year earlier. Present prospects are that demand for beef will continue strong but higher prices for feeds and the continued high prices of feeder cattle will tend to hold down returns from feeding this next year.

The major exception to this prospect is the effect of defense expenditures on prices of slaughter cattle next winter and spring -- and therefore on returns from feeding. However, any extreme rise in general commodity prices would probably be restrained by Government action.

Because of seasonally small supplies, prices of hogs will probably hold near recent levels in the next few weeks. But price trends are expected to be seasonally downward as soon as marketings increase materially. The decline during the fall will probably be no greater than the usual seasonal decrease of 18-20 percent between September and December. No hog price support program has been announced for this fall to limit the extent to which prices may decline.

The upward trend in prices of meats is likely to be reversed as soon as fall marketings of livestock begin in volume. Unless demand increases much more, meat prices may be relatively lower this fall than now.

Heifer Slaughter Down From 1949

In the first 5 months of this year, 1,482,000 cows were slaughtered under Federal inspection, 4 percent more than the 1,427,000 slaughtered in the same months last year. However, the number of heifers slaughtered dropped from 664,000 to 591,000, or 11 percent. The combined number of cows and heifers slaughtered under Federal inspection in January-May this year was 1 percent smaller than last year and was 5.0 percent of the number of cows and heifers 2 years old and over on farms January 1 compared with 5.2 percent last year. This indicates that the number of breeding stock on farms for future herd expansion is being maintained.

Table 3.- Federally inspected slaughter of cattle and calves, and sheep and lambs, by classes, January-May 1944-50 ^{1/}

Class	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1950 as a percentage of 1949
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Percent
Cattle								
Steers	2,790	2,860	2,319	3,229	2,551	3,002	2,926	97
Heifers	575	671	477	862	593	664	591	89
Cows	1,597	1,938	1,387	1,977	1,755	1,427	1,482	104
Cows and heifers	2,172	2,609	1,864	2,839	2,348	2,091	2,073	99
Bulls and stags	206	200	138	172	152	150	159	106
Total cattle ^{2/} ..	5,168	5,669	4,321	6,240	5,051	5,243	5,158	98
Canner and cutter ^{3/} :	708	646	377	685	760	524	500	95
Calves	2,570	2,576	2,199	3,061	2,722	2,651	2,484	94
Total cattle and calves	7,738	8,245	6,520	9,301	7,773	7,894	7,641	97
Sheep and lambs								
Lambs and yearlings :	7,214	7,614	7,837	6,190	5,281	4,346	4,255	98
Sheep	830	1,135	887	536	473	320	399	125
Total sheep and lambs ^{2/}	8,044	8,749	8,724	6,726	5,754	4,666	4,654	100

^{1/} Based on reports from packers.

^{2/} Based on rounded numbers.

^{3/} Included in number of total cattle.

Production and Marketing Administration.

Calf slaughter in January-May was 6 percent smaller than last year. Slaughter of classes other than heifers and calves was close to that of a year earlier. These reports indicate that numbers of all cattle on farms January 1, 1951 will be considerably higher than at the beginning of this year. In the past, a smaller slaughter and increased inventory of calves usually has accompanied a rise in the number of all cattle on farms.

Ewe Slaughter Larger.

Federally inspected slaughter of "sheep" -- most of which were ewes -- was 25 percent greater the first 5 months of this year than last. Since lamb and yearling slaughter is only 2 percent less than last year, it is possible that sheep numbers may be reduced again this year. The small reduction in sheep numbers from January 1, 1949 to January 1, 1950, continued high prices for lambs and rising prices for wool, and a rather small sheep and lamb slaughter in early months of the year had previously suggested that sheep numbers would not be reduced further this year.

New Law Provides for More Alien Sheepherders

Special quota immigration visas were made available to alien sheepherders (Public Law 587, 81st Congress, signed June 30, 1950). This law permits the admission of 250 skilled sheepherders during the next year from countries for which immigration quotas have been filled. The number of sheepherders admitted under this law must be deducted from subsequent quotas, and they may not be admitted unless offered permanent employment.

Adequate Feed Supplies Expected

Increased production of meat animals in the months ahead will be encouraged by the feed supplies in prospect according to the July 1 crop report. The corn crop for harvest this fall and winter was indicated at 3,176 million bushels, only 200 million less than 1949, and 275 million larger than the 1939-48 average. Crops of oats and barley are expected to be greater than last year. The sorghum grain crop may also be as large as the large crop of 1949. In addition, carry-overs of the four grains are unusually large. Stocks of corn in all positions July 1 were the largest on record. If production is as great as anticipated, supplies of feed concentrates per animal unit in 1950 may be nearly as large as the record stocks of 1949 (table 4). The hay supply will also be ample, probably nearly equal to the 1947 record supply per hay-consuming animal unit.

Large supplies of feed usually are followed by a large production of livestock products. As was true in the last two years, the expansion in livestock in the year ahead is likely to be smaller than feed supplies alone would indicate, because much larger than normal quantities of corn and other grains probably will be held in storage. However, farmers are more likely to carry out their intentions to increase the number of sows to farrow fall pigs than would be true if the corn crop were to be small. Large feed supplies might result in slaughter weights of hogs this fall nearly as heavy as last year. In addition, the number of cattle fed on grain for slaughter probably will be fairly large.

Table 4.- Feed balance, numbers of animal units, and feed per unit,
United States, year beginning October, average 1937-41, annual 1946-50

Item	Average 1937-41	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950 2/
	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons	Million tons
<u>Supply</u>						
Stocks beginning of crop year 3/	16.9	10.9	13.8	7.7	30.3	32.0
<u>Production</u>						
Corn	72.1	91.0	66.8	103.1	94.6	88.9
Oats	18.1	24.0	19.2	23.9	21.2	22.3
Barley	6.9	6.3	6.7	7.6	5.7	6.4
Sorghum grains	2.2	3.0	2.7	3.7	4.3	4/4.2
Total feed grains produced	99.3	124.3	95.4	138.3	125.8	121.8
Other grains fed 5/	4.8	5.1	6.2	4.4	5.4	5.0
Byproduct feeds for feed	15.4	19.4	19.0	19.6	19.7	19.5
Total supply of concentrates ...	136.4	159.7	134.4	170.0	181.2	178.3
<u>Utilization</u>						
Domestic feed grains fed	85.1	100.2	87.1	99.2	105.9	
Domestic wheat and rye fed	4.6	5.0	6.1	3.8	4.7	
Other grain fed	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.7	
Oilseed cake and meal	3.9	5.8	6.2	7.3	7.6	
Animal protein feeds	2.9	2.3	2.4	2.4	2.5	
Other byproduct feeds	8.6	11.3	10.4	9.9	9.6	
Total concentrates fed	105.3	124.7	112.3	123.2	131.0	
Feed grains for seed, human food, industry, and export	12.1	19.3	13.6	17.8	17.2	
Total utilization	117.4	144.0	125.9	141.0	148.2	
Total utilization adjusted to crop year basis	116.5	145.9	126.7	139.7	149.2	
Stocks at end of crop year 3/ ...	19.9	13.8	7.7	30.3	32.0	
Number of grain-consuming animal units fed annually October- September (million) 6/	153.1	161.4	155.7	162.7	169.0	169.0
Supply of all concentrates per animal unit (ton)	.89	.99	.86	1.04	1.07	1.06
Concentrates fed per animal unit (ton)	.69	.77	.72	.76	.78	

1/ Preliminary. Subject to change as additional data become available.

2/ Based on indications in July 1950.

3/ Stocks in all positions of corn October 1 and oats and barley July 1.

4/ Unofficial estimate based on indications in early July.

5/ Imported grain and domestic wheat and rye fed.

6/ For weights see table 8, April-May 1949 Feed Situation.

Production of byproduct feeds in the 1950-51 feeding year is expected to be about the same as in 1949-50. Supplies of oilseed cakes and meals may total close to the record supply for this season, and another large supply of other byproducts is in prospect. Soybean meal production is likely to establish a new high this year.

Prices of feed relative to prices of meat animals or animal products directly affects livestock and meat production. Higher prices for feeds probably is one of the reasons why the spring pig crop increased less than was planned last December. They also help account for the lighter slaughter weights of cattle and hogs this year. Prices of feeds are likely to continue high in the next season. The corn price is likely to be closer to the loan rate this fall than last. However, continued strong demand for meat will probably keep the price of meat animals up so that livestock-feed price ratios will encourage a gradual increase in meat production.

Table 5.- Meat production and feed concentrate supplies,
United States, 1927-50

(Data for cover page)

Year	Meat	Feed concentrate		Year	Meat	Feed concentrate	
	pro-	supply			pro-	supply	
	duction	Total	Total less:		duction	Total	Total less:
		1/	exports 2/			1/	exports 2/
	Million	Million	Million		Million	Million	Million
	pounds	tons	tons		pounds	tons	tons
1927	16.3	123.2	121.9	1940	19.1	136.5	135.2
1928	16.2	122.9	121.0	1941	19.6	140.7	140.2
1929	16.1	126.4	123.8	1942	21.9	150.8	150.1
1930	16.0	121.6	121.0	1943	24.5	172.8	172.6
1931	16.5	113.3	112.9	1944	25.2	164.5	164.2
1932	16.4	123.2	122.7	1945	23.7	158.1	157.3
1933	17.4	138.3	137.8	1946	23.0	155.1	153.9
1934	18.8	115.6	115.5	1947	23.4	159.7	154.5
1935	14.4	82.8	82.6	1948	21.4	134.4	133.1
1936	16.8	114.6	114.3	1949	21.7	170.0	164.6
1937	15.7	90.0	89.8	1950 $\frac{3}{4}$	22.4	181.2	176.8
1938	16.5	123.3	118.8	1951 $\frac{4}{4}$		178.3	
1939	17.5	130.7	129.4				

1/ Includes supply of corn, oats, barley, sorghum grains, imported grains, domestic wheat and rye fed, and byproduct feeds for feed, feeding year beginning October.

2/ Total feed concentrates excluding exports of feed grains.

3/ Partly forecast.

4/ Based on July crop production prospects.

Selected Price Statistics for Meat Animals 1/

Item	Unit	January-June		1949 June	1950	
		1949	1950		May	June
Cattle and calves						
Beef steers, slaughter	Dollars per:					
Chicago, Choice and Prime	100 pounds	26.72	32.89	27.51	31.34	31.34
Good	do.	24.59	28.25	26.37	29.19	29.99
Medium	do.	22.76	25.49	24.61	27.10	27.86
Common	do.	20.77	22.70	21.26	24.44	24.68
All grades	do.	24.38	27.26	26.47	29.02	30.13
Omaha, all grades	do.	23.35	25.86	25.44	27.64	28.70
Sioux City, all grades	do.	23.12	26.07	25.40	27.99	29.02
Cows, Chicago						
Good	do.	19.53	20.71	20.81	22.92	22.98
Common	do.	2/16.35	17.77	2/16.68	19.41	19.83
Canner and Cutter	do.	3/15.32	15.27	3/15.44	16.35	16.82
Vealers, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	28.62	30.09	26.13	30.58	29.22
Stocker and feeder steers, Kansas City	do.	23.00	25.47	22.53	27.19	27.44
Price received by farmers						
Beef cattle	do.	20.47	21.58	20.90	23.20	23.70
Veal calves	do.	24.02	24.75	23.30	25.70	25.90
Hogs						
Barrows and gilts						
Chicago						
160-180 pounds	do.	20.48	17.39	21.31	18.86	19.69
180-200 pounds	do.	20.69	17.80	21.56	19.46	20.30
200-220 pounds	do.	20.62	17.86	21.51	19.57	20.39
220-240 pounds	do.	20.33	17.69	21.33	19.54	20.21
240-270 pounds	do.	19.82	17.36	20.89	19.35	19.74
270-300 pounds	do.	19.17	16.93	20.16	18.94	19.05
All weights	do.	19.70	17.30	20.76	18.96	19.68
Seven markets 4/	do.	19.58	17.28	20.57	19.01	19.65
Sows, Chicago	do.	16.26	14.82	16.63	16.27	16.35
Price received by farmers	do.	18.98	16.62	18.80	18.50	17.80
Hog-corn price ratio 5/						
Chicago, barrows and gilts	do.	14.6	12.5	15.3	12.8	13.2
Price received by farmers, all hogs	do.	15.8	13.4	15.5	13.8	13.1
Sheep and lambs						
Sheep						
Slaughter ewes, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	11.84	12.06	9.41	10.96	8.99
Price received by farmers	do.	9.97	10.54	9.92	11.00	10.30
Lambs						
Slaughter, Good and Choice, Chicago	do.	27.37	26.08	27.49	26.89	27.65
Price received by farmers	do.	23.80	23.55	24.30	24.60	24.80
All meat animals						
Index number price received by farmers (1910-14=100)		321	316	316	342	342
Meat						
Wholesale, Chicago	Dollars per:					
Steer beef carcass, Good, 500-600 pounds	100 pounds	39.75	44.55	43.04	46.73	48.49
Lamb carcass, Good, 30-40 pounds	do.	52.18	6/50.48	53.34	6/53.37	6/53.40
Composite hog products, including lard						
72.84 pounds fresh	Dollars	21.72	18.84	21.89	20.44	20.89
Average per 100 pounds	do.	29.82	25.86	30.05	28.06	28.68
71.32 pounds fresh and cured	do.	25.13	21.90	25.10	23.39	24.01
Average per 100 pounds	do.	35.24	30.71	35.19	32.80	33.67
Retail, United States average	Cents					
Beef, Good grade	per pound	64.9	69.6	68.4	72.2	75.5
Lamb	do.	68.4	67.7	77.4	70.7	74.0
Pork, including lard	do.	41.4	37.6	41.9	39.3	40.8
Index number meat prices (BLS)						
Wholesale (1926=100)		223.3	221.4	230.3	234.0	241.4
Retail (1935-39=100)		226.5	229.3	239.3	239.9	248.4

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.

2/ Cutter and Common.

3/ Average for prices of Cutter and Common, and of Canner (Low Cutter).

4/ Chicago, St. Louis N. S. Y., Kansas City, Omaha, Sioux City, S. St. Joseph, and S. St. Paul.

5/ Number bushels of corn equivalent in value to 100 pounds of live hogs.

6/ Prices of 45-50 lb. lamb carcasses for months of 1950 except January.

Selected marketing, slaughter and stocks statistics for meat animals and meats 1/

Item	Unit	January-June		1949	1950		
		1949	1950	June	May	June	July
Meat animal marketings							
Index number (1935-39=100)		132	134	129	141	126	
Stocker and feeder shipments to							
8 Corn Belt States	:1,000						
Cattle and calves	:head	624	804	140	130	160	
Sheep and lambs	:do.	650	748	138	157	166	
Slaughter under Federal inspection							
Number slaughtered							
Cattle	:do.	6,338	6,223	1,095	1,075	1,066	
Calves	:do.	3,184	2,969	533	496	485	
Sheep and lambs	:do.	5,564	5,673	898	941	1,019	
Hogs	:do.	25,131	27,864	3,745	4,338	4,154	
Percentage sows	:Percent	13	13	28	15	27	
Average live weight per head							
Cattle	:Pounds	989	990	972	985	974	
Calves	:do.	183	188	201	193	209	
Sheep and lambs	:do.	95	99	88	95	90	
Hogs	:do.	251	244	266	245	264	
Average production							
Beef, per head	:do.	547	542	537	547	536	
Veal, per head	:do.	103	105	113	108	117	
Lamb and mutton, per head	:do.	45	47	42	46	43	
Pork, per head 2/	:do.	140	137	149	137	146	
Pork, per 100 pounds live weight 2/ ..	:do.	56	56	56	56	55	
Lard, per head	:do.	38	36	39	36	40	
Lard, per 100 pounds live weight ..	:do.	15	15	15	15	15	
Total production	:Million:						
Beef	:pounds	3,447	3,373	585	585	572	
Veal	:do.	324	310	60	54	57	
Lamb and mutton	:do.	248	266	37	43	44	
Pork 2/	:do.	3,522	3,796	557	593	605	
Lard	:do.	948	1,004	145	156	164	
Total commercial slaughter 3/							
Number slaughtered	:1,000						
Cattle	:head	8,655	---	1,494	1,485	---	
Calves	:do.	5,382	---	898	849	---	
Sheep and lambs	:do.	6,136	---	1,011	1,034	---	
Hogs	:do.	30,512	---	4,447	5,229	---	
Total production	:Million:						
Beef	:pounds	4,503	---	765	774	---	
Veal	:do.	557	---	103	94	---	
Lamb and mutton	:do.	272	---	42	47	---	
Pork 2/	:do.	4,225	---	649	703	---	
Lard	:do.	1,071	---	162	178	---	
Cold storage stocks first of month							
Beef	:do.	---	---	87	91	72	61
Veal	:do.	---	---	7	8	6	7
Lamb and mutton	:do.	---	---	7	8	7	7
Pork	:do.	---	---	466	542	492	466
Total meat and meat products 4/	:do.	---	---	673	749	674	633

1/ Annual data for most series published in Statistical Appendix to this Situation, February 1950.

2/ Excludes lard.

3/ Federally inspected, and other wholesale and retail.

4/ Includes stocks of sausage and sausage room products, canned meats and canned meat products, and edible offals, in addition to the four meats listed.

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington 25, D. C.

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